

REGULAR MEETING-MANSFIELD TOWN COUNCIL
October 10, 2006

Deputy Mayor Gregory Haddad called the regular meeting of the Mansfield Town Council to order at 7:30 p.m. in the Council Chambers of the Audrey P. Beck Building.

I. ROLL CALL

Present: Blair, Haddad, Hawkins, Koehn (7:40 p.m.), Paulhus

II. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Mr. Hawkins moved and Ms. Blair seconded to approve the minutes of the September 25, 2006 meeting with corrections.

III. MOMENT OF SILENCE

Mr. Haddad requested a moment of silence in recognition of lives lost by military personnel in the wars in Iraq and Afghanistan.

Mr. Hawkins moved and Mr. Paulhus seconded to move Item 5 on the agenda, "Presentation from Big Friend's Homework Group" as the next item.
Motion so passed.

Patricia Michalak, a counselor for the town's Youth Services department, outlined the program for members. Pat started the program, which pairs students from the Mansfield School System with volunteers from UConn, seven years ago. She credits much of the success of the program to its reliance on parental involvement; each parent must bring their child to the Tuesday night program and attend a concurrent meeting. Pat then introduced Courtney Shannon, the volunteer coordinator for the Big Friend Program, who asked the volunteers and students to introduced themselves.

Council members thanked the volunteers and students for their participation and noted that their efforts to positively affect our community are greatly appreciated.

IV. OPPORTUNITY FOR PUBLIC TO ADDRESS THE COUNCIL

Richard Pellegrine, 269 Clover Mill Road, addressed the Council describing the origination of the mutual aid agreement among area fire departments and itemizing a number of ordinance and policies already established to deal with party houses. Mr. Pellegrine urged a mutual aid agreement with the State Police and UConn Police be formalized.

V. OLD BUSINESS

1. Community Water and Wastewater Issues

Lon Hultgren, Director of Public works, who serves on the selection committee charged with hiring the consultant to prepare a master water supply plan for the

University, stated that although the process was not complete he thought a number of the applicants were very well qualified. In response to a question Lon noted that Mansfield's share of the project would be about 20% making the town not just a customer but also a partner.

2. Community/Campus Relations and Birch Road Community Concerns

Matt Hart, Town Manager, highlighted some of the steps that have been recently taken to address the problems on Birch Road and throughout town. These include the authorization of overtime to ensure police coverage during the third shift on weekends during the warm months, formalizing the reporting procedure between our police and the dean of students, serving on the search committee for the new UConn Director of Off Campus Services and meeting with landlords.

Sergeant Cox described the new streamlined referral process to the dean of students. He stated that this referral will not be used for any significant infractions but if the action does not reach the threshold of arrest this alternative can be very effective. He also noted that UConn police do support local police when possible and that ING has hired someone to patrol their properties on the weekends

Mr. Hawkins stated that it is important to maintain a balance; we want to be able to utilize surrounding police forces but do not want to give away primary responsibility. Ms. Koehn asked that staff look at Bob Cook's suggestions in the Quality of Life Report.

3. Financial Statements Dated June 30, 2006

Mr. Hawkins moved and Mr. Paulhus seconded, effective October 10, 2006, to accept the financial statements dated June 30, 2006, as recommended by the Finance Committee.

Motion so passed.

4. Capital Expenditures

Jeff Smith, Director of Finance, explained the proposed closeouts and transfers noting that there are some fairly significant cuts and adjustments. In response to questions regarding cuts in energy conservation projects, Mr. Smith commented that they would be included in the Siemens project and financed out of the expected energy saving.

In order to cover the reduction in the state grant funds, the following actions are proposed:

1. Amend the Capital Fund Budget per the attached letter from the Director of Finance
2. With the adoption of 1 (one), above, \$40,000 is CNR Fund Balance will be used
3. Reduce transfer from the CNR Fund to the Management Services fund by \$25,000
4. Reduce transfer from the CNR Fund to the Debt Service Fund by \$15,000

5. Reduce transfer from the CNR Fund to the Property Revaluation Fund by \$1000

Mr. Hawkins moved and Ms. Blair seconded to approve the following Resolutions:

RESOLVED, The budget adjustments as presented to the Town Council in the memo from the Director of Finance, dated September 19, 2006, (attached) are hereby approved.

RESOLVED, The budget adjustments noted in items 3,4, & 5 above are hereby approved.

Motion so passed.

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VI. NEW BUSINESS

5. Presentation from Big Friend's Homework Group

Previously addressed

6. Priorities for Town Manager

Matt Hart, Town Manager, presented the Council with a listing of some of his priorities for the town. These issues will be discussed in the Personnel Committee and then with the Council.

7. Contract Agreement between the Town of Mansfield and Regional School Board for Accounting, Bookkeeping, Information Technology and Risk Management

Ms. Blair moved and Ms Koehn seconded, effective October 10, 2006, to authorize the Town Manager to execute the proposed Contract between the Town of Mansfield and Regional School Board for Accounting, Bookkeeping, Information Technology and Risk Management Services.

Motion so passed.

8. Town of Mansfield Corporate Resolution

Ms. Koehn moved and Mr. Hawkins seconded to approve the following resolution:

RESOLVED, This is to certify that pursuant to Section C502 of the Charter of the Town of Mansfield, Matthew W Hart, the Town Manager of the Town of Mansfield, shall sign and make all contracts and agreements in the name of the Corporation from this day forward.

Motion so passed.

9. Appointment to Eastern Highlands Health District Board of Directors

Ms. Blair moved and Mr. Hawkins seconded, effective October 10, 2006, to appoint the following members to the board of directors for the Eastern Highlands

District: 1) Michael Kurland for a term beginning on June 5, 2005 and expiring on June 5, 2008; 2) Elizabeth C Paterson for a term beginning on June 5, 2006 and expiring on June 5, 2009; and 3) Matthew W. Hart for a term beginning on October 4, 2006 and expiring on October 4, 2009.

Mr. Haddad questioned whether or not this appointment should go through the Committee on Committees. If so, he requested that this would not be a routine departure from the process.

Motion so passed.

10. Appointment to Mansfield Downtown Partnership

Ms. Koehn moved and Mr. Paulhus seconded, effective October 10, 2006, to appoint Town Manager Matthew W. Hart to the board of directors for the Mansfield Downtown Partnership, Inc. for a term beginning on October 4, 2006 and expiring on June 30, 2008.

Motion so passed.

VII. DEPARTMENTAL REPORTS

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VIII. REPORTS OF COUNCIL COMMITTEES

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IX. REPORTS OF COUNCIL MEMBERS

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Mr. Paulhus and Mr. Hawkins attended the ground breaking for the pedestrian walkway.

Ms. Koehn attended the Downtown Partnership Board Meeting and was impressed with the changes made by the architect.

X. TOWN MANAGER'S REPORT

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Attached

XI. FUTURE AGENDAS

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XII. PETITIONS, REQUEST AND COMMUNICATIONS

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11. Explanatory Text- November 7, 2006 Referendum

12. Fee Waiver Ordinance- will distribute next meeting

13. K. Holt re: Fall Bond Referendum

14. Homeland Security Commercial Equipment Direct Assistance Program Application

15. ICMA Public Management Magazine "2006 ICMA Annual Award Recipients"

16. Letters of Appointment

17. E. Paterson re: Eagleville Brook TMDL Analysis

18. Quinebaug-Shetucket Heritage Corridor, Inc. re: 16th Annual Walking Weekend

19. C. Vincente re: Parks and Recreation Department Program Fees

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XIII. EXECUTIVE SESSION

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Ms. Blair moved and Mr. Paulhus moved to go into Executive Session.
Motion so passed.

Present: Blair, Haddad, Hawkins, Koehn, Paulhus

Also Present: Matt Hart

Personnel Issues

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XIV. ADJOURNMENT

Mr. Paulhus moved and Ms. Blair seconded to adjourn the meeting
Motion so passed.

Gregory Haddad, Deputy Mayor

Mary Stanton, Town Clerk